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SIPDIS

DEPT FOR ECA/PE/V/M (MBENSON, SROBINSON, JBEARD), INFO  
ECA/PE/V/R/W (EWILKES-SCOTT), WHA/PDA (SLEBENS),  
WHA/AND (JMONSERRATE)

E.O.12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: PROGRAM EVALUATION: FY-2005 SPECIAL MRP:  
"HUMANITARIAN RESPONSES TO CRISES AND DISASTERS" (July 28-  
August 18, 2005) E/VM-2005-0045 - Ms. Lucy HARMAN

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY: IV Lucy Harman participated in subject program to familiarize herself with U.S. organizations involved in disaster relief, emergency management, and humanitarian assistance. She learned how U.S. society responds to global and local crises and observed the many institutions, including voluntary organizations that are active in disaster relief.

2. DATE, FISCAL YEAR AND QUARTER: July 28-August 18, 2005, FY-2005; Fourth Quarter.

3. MISSION PERFORMANCE PLAN THEME: Democratic System and Practices (Humanitarian responses to crises and disasters.)

4. RESULT/IMPACT: "A great experience, both professionally and personally." Upon her return and as a result of her participation in subject program, IV Harman has been assigned as the person in charge of the recently created "National Emergency and Risk Reduction Office" of CARE Peru. Her designation makes her a member of the South American Sub-region for Emergencies and Risk Reduction Initiatives in Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia, and of the regional initiatives of Latin America and the Caribbean - SAMI/CAMI.

5. AUDIENCE REACHED: Sixteen colleagues from different countries worldwide; five from Latin America and the Caribbean; four from Europe; three from Asia, and four from Africa. Participants intend to maintain contact with many of the valuable contacts they made throughout the program and with each other.

6. OFFICER ESCORTS: "The four Escorts made our stay a great and positive experience." They were Connie Vasquez, Beverly Tyler and Toney Seabolt, as well as Bob Acker, who accompanied the IV group to San Diego. Escorts willingly shared their "know-how" of the U.S. system, the facts of the cities visited, and gave them tips that facilitated their trip.

7. QUALITY OF SUPPORT FROM ECA: Program was funded with FY-05 IV allocation. In Washington, D.C., the group appreciated the warm welcome note from PO Margery Benson with detailed information on the program. They also had an administrative session with Lauren Manly, and Pina Tenore, from the Agency for Educational Development, AED.

At Lima Post, Lucy Harman received all the necessary information on time, and was adequately briefed for her trip.

8. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAM:  
-- IV Harman was impressed with the remarkable agenda they had, and the first-rate professionals they were able to visit, especially the appointment with the Secretary of State in Washington, D.C., and with the Amish community in Cleveland.  
-- Home hospitality "was very interesting and fun."

9. LONG-TERM RESULTS: IV has received a lot of diverse information, which will be of great help in her new assignment.

10. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS:  
-- They had a balanced program, though with a lot of work. However, there was time for cultural experiences, such as concerts, exhibitions, movies, as well as going to the beach and the malls.  
-- The program itself had a variety of appointments and visits to different USG officers, in different sectors such as the national, government, local, and private levels.  
-- To include a formal session among participants for an exchange of experiences and discussion. This only occurred as an initiative of the participants during their free time, without any preparation or involvement of the U.S. officers.  
-- To include appointments with NGO representatives in the U.S responsible for emergency/disaster assistance, or with representatives of international organizations (CARE, Save the Children, and Oxfam). They had numerous meetings with the Red Cross, and fire Departments, but only one scheduled time with an NGO, that happened to be from the religious sector.

IV Harman suggests future Digital Video Conferences, or visits

to Peru of:  
-- Dr. Jeremy Mayer, George Mason University, for a conference  
on the U.S. political system.  
-- Mr. William Lokey, Federal Emergency Management Agency  
(FEMA), to learn about his experiences after the Hurricane  
Katrina's devastation.

STRUBLE